

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEWT, ETRD, FI, UR

SUBJECT: FINNISH CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS ON SOVIET KARELIA

REF: (A) HELSINKI A-8, 1/9/75, (B) A-163, 8/29/75

1. IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE EXTENT TO WHICH USSR COULD ALLOW WESTERN FIRMS TO PARTICIPATE IN ACTUAL MANAGEMENT OF A COOPERATIVE VENTURE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON FINNISH-SOVIET PROJECTS; AT SVETOGORSK, KOSTAMUS AND PAAJARVI, SPECIFICALLY (1) ROLE FINNISH MANAGEMENT AND LABOR ARE PLAYING IN CONSTRUCTION PHASES, (2) POSSIBLE ROLE FINNISH MANAGEMENT AND LABOR WILL PLAY AFTER CONSTRUCTION PHASES ARE COMPLETED, AND (3) TYPE AND AMOUNT OF GOODS PRODUCED AT THESE PROJECTS THAT WILL BE EXPORTED TO FINLAND.

2. WHILE REF B IS AN EXCELLENT SUMMARY OF KOSTAMUS, SVETOGORSK, AND PAAJARVI PROJECTS, EXACT ROLE OF FINNISH NATIONALS STILL REMAINS UNCLEAR. MOREOVER, INQUIRIES AT FINNISH EMBASSY FAILED TO CLARIFY ROLE OF FINNISH FIRMS.

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IT APPEARS THAT FINNISH NATIONALS ARE DOING MOST OF THE
PLANNING AND MANAGING OF THE CONSTRUCTION PHASES, BUT STILL
HAVE TO NEGOTIATE WITH THE SOVIETS FOR A CONTINUING ROLE IN
THE COMPLETED PROJECTS. WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL
INFORMATION ON THE THREE PROJECTS AND COMMENTS ON WHETHER

OTHER WESTERN FIRMS DO OR COULD FOLLOW THE FINNISH MODELS.
INGERSOLL

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